

PINCKNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



Pinckney Community Schools places a high priority on providing stellar education, as demonstrated by our award-winning and nationally recognized programs. We are dedicated to providing a caring and supportive environment, tailored to the individual needs of all children, to help them master the knowledge and skills that will enable them to become successful adults.

Take a look inside and see what we have to offer!



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PINCKNEYSCHOOLS.ORG



POSITIVELY PINCKNEY!
Live • Learn • Play



Pinckney Pride

DEDICATED STAFF

HELPING STUDENTS THRIVE

In The Classroom

At Pinckney Community Schools we pride ourselves on our dedicated, passionate teachers and staff. For us, students always come first. Our smaller district allows teachers and staff to focus on getting to know your child and understanding how to best meet his or her needs. This powerful learning approach is difficult to achieve in larger districts.

Outstanding Programs

Programs offered from Kindergarten through graduation help our students grow and succeed as active learners and productive citizens.

- Elementary grade configuration for optimized learning
- Technology taught K - 12
- Established one-to-one laptop program from 7th grade through high school
- Advanced Placement classes (10 -12)
- Focus on the arts
- Quality programming and support for special needs children
- Nationally recognized project-based learning at New Tech High School
- Nationally recognized robotics and automotive technology programs

- Computer engineering program in partnership with Cisco Systems
- Manufacturing program with the latest computer numerically controlled (CNC) equipment
- Virtual Enterprise International Business Program
- Dual enrollment opportunities
- Partnership with University of Michigan – Flint

Safe and Caring Environment

We are dedicated to providing your child with a safe and caring environment. Teachers and staff make a point of knowing the students in their classes and throughout the building. In addition, each school offers programs to enhance safety.

- Safety Day – fire departments, 911 operators and EMS come to our schools to teach about safety
- It Stops with Students – student-led substance abuse prevention activities
- School social workers in every building to support social-emotional needs that affect learning
- High expectations of students for character, citizenship and service



Individualized Learning

Students receive individualized attention in our outstanding programs and learning environments. As a smaller district, we have the ability to focus on each child and offer what he or she needs in order to thrive in the classroom.



Staff Development

Providing the most current information and educational opportunities to our teachers and staff on a weekly basis ensures that they are ready and able to help students perform to their highest potential.

Early Childhood Programs

Tuition-Based 3 & 4 Year Old Preschool Program

The Pinckney Community Education Preschool program follows the State of Michigan Standards of Quality for Early Childhood Education. We provide a warm, nurturing setting that encourages children to learn through developmentally appropriate hands-on learning experiences. Our structured and literacy-rich environments allow children to explore the world around them while they grow socially, emotionally, and academically.

Our students are exposed to many educational experiences with learning concepts in:

- Math
- Science
- Language
- Literacy
- Music
- Art

A Pinckney Schools preschool experience includes exploration with cooperative learning and playing with peers. Focused on kindergarten-readiness, our certified early childhood teachers consult with our kindergarten teachers in order to provide children with important kindergarten-readiness activities, especially those which are focused on pre-reading and early writing experiences.

Set within our district's elementary schools, our students are exposed to and become familiar with what our quality buildings have to offer. We believe in a strong correlation between parental involvement and student educational success and, therefore, welcome parental involvement in our State of Michigan licensed classrooms.



KinderREADY Early Five-Year-Old Program

Pinckney Community Schools is offering a KinderREADY program at Farley Hill and Country Elementary Schools that runs five full days per week during the 2015-16 school year. This is a program specially designed for young school age children (turning age five by September 1, 2015) who are needing a little more time before starting kindergarten. It is normal for all children to develop at their own rate socially, emotionally and intellectually. KinderREADY provides more readiness activities for reading, writing, and mathematics. It also focuses on getting students acclimated to a school environment and used to following directions and sharing with other children. Students are screened individually to determine if KinderREADY is the right fit for the child.

For more information on the 2015-16 KinderReady program, please [click here](#).

Head Start Early Childhood Program

Our Head Start Program is a tuition-free, federally funded early childhood program that provides:

- Comprehensive early childhood education
- Healthy nutrition
- Parent involvement services to low-income children and their families

The program's services and resources are designed to foster stable family relationships, enhance children's physical and emotional well-being and establish an environment to develop strong cognitive skills.



Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)

The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is a tuition-free, state funded preschool program for qualifying four-year-old children. The Great Start Readiness Preschool Program is designed to promote the development of the whole child. This is accomplished by providing a program that includes:

- Both teacher-directed and child-initiated activities
- Quiet as well as active experiences
- Learning through play and exploration in both formal and informal settings
- Curriculum that emphasizes physical, social-emotional, and cognitive development.

The Great Start Readiness Program uses the Michigan Early Learning Standards, The Creative Curriculum and the Department of Human Services licensing requirements.

Call today for more information.

Tuition-Based Preschool

(810) 225-3950

Head Start & Great Start Readiness

(517) 548 – 2100

KinderReady

Farley Hill Elementary

(810) 225-6400

Country Elementary

(810) 225-6600

Elementary Education (K-3)

Elementary schools configured to teach Kindergarten through 3rd grade provide an optimal learning environment. Our focus on mastery learning allows children to thoroughly grasp the material being taught before moving on. This helps students become confident and eager learners.

Our Elementary Schools

- Preschool
- KinderReady (early fives)
- Traditionally low class sizes
- Veteran staff with little or no teacher turnover
- Dedicated parents and active PTO
- Fully implemented multi-tiered systems of support in Literacy and Math
- After school Math & Reading clubs
- Michigan Department of Education recognized Title I programs
- SMILE (Students and Mentors in a Learning Environment)
- Upgraded technology and facilities supported by recent district-wide school bond
- Physical education
- Art classes
- Music



Making It Fun

We provide many fun activities to help our students learn and engage outside of the classroom, such as:

- Conservation Club
- R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dogs therapy dog reading program)
- Field Day
- Student Run/Walk Program
- Family Craft Night
- Pastries with Parents
- Fall Festival
- Girls On The Run
- Food Drives

MASTERY LEARNING

Mastery learning is both a philosophy and set of beliefs about teaching and learning, and establishes a method of assessment and instruction.

Favorable learning conditions, where the best instructional match is made for each child, allow virtually all students to access and succeed in learning content at a higher level of application.

Providing for Special Needs



A special Friendship Bench on the playground gives children a chance to make new friends.

Pinckney Community Schools continuously strives to meet the learning needs of all students, including academic, social and behavioral. When it is suspected that a student may have a disability, school personnel work with parents to determine eligibility and provide services to support the child's learning and engagement in the school environment.

At PCS, we abide by the philosophy that special education is not a place but a service that identifies and meets the needs of students with disabilities through specialized instruction. We are consistent in our adherence to the Federal IDEIA laws as well as the State of Michigan laws

The district provides Peer-to-Peer (LINKS) in all buildings. This evidence-based support program teaches students how to work and build friendships with students who have disabilities.

A "Friendship Bench" at one of our elementary buildings is the result of a peer-to-peer relationship. This bench is a special place where students can sit when they are in need of a friend. In another building, the LINKS group worked to educate students about the importance of treating all of their peers with kindness and respect.

Our inclusion rate is over 80% (time in general education classrooms) and students with disabilities are encouraged to participate in all school activities.

Navigator Upper Elementary (4 - 6)

Navigator Upper Elementary School offers education to Pinckney's 4th – 6th grade students. Our staff works hard to create an environment that encourages independence while offering the warmth and support students still need at this level. Staff members work collaboratively on behalf of all students to provide an excellent upper elementary school experience.

Fostering Growth

Our programs are designed to foster growth and independence.

- Advanced Math for 5th and 6th grade
- After school clubs
- Award-winning Band and Orchestra programs
- BAAM - Be safe, Appreciations, Attentive listening, Mutual respect (positive behavior support program)
- Bully-proofing programs
- Catch-Up Café
- Community service opportunities
- Data-driven instructional programs
- Fifth grade camp



- Flex-time differentiation
- Instructional Consultation Team
- Parent and student transition programs
- Recreation time
- Strong PTO support and involvement
- Student-created announcements
- Technology integration
- Physical education
- Art classes



Pathfinder School (7 - 8)

Pathfinder School is committed to providing a high quality education to all 7th and 8th grade students. Our highly educated staff presents materials in classrooms equipped with interactive whiteboards, digital cameras and wireless access. We have a complete soccer and track stadium, multiple baseball/softball fields, tennis courts, a pool, two gymnasiums and a professional theatre.

We offer many opportunities for students to learn and grow. Beyond our rigorous, relevant and state-aligned core academics, we offer the following:

- Only middle-school in Livingston County with one-to-one laptop program
- Spanish I
- Reading and math interventions
- Physical education

- Drama, band, orchestra, choir and guitar
- Choose to Lead class
- Classes such as woodworking, food and nutrition, family living, forensic science, nature and natural disasters, creative writing, art, digital media and architectural design
- After school Kensington Lakes Activities Association (KLAA) athletics
- Clubs such as yearbook, anime (Japanese animation), Tisch Techies (theater lights and sound), Back Alley Players (theater group) and Garage Band
- After school tutoring
- Student-run school store
- Peer-to-peer program to assist students with special needs
- 7th grade elective exploration



- Americorp Vista volunteer to assist in service learning projects that teach students philanthropy
- Southeast Michigan Middle Levels Administrative Association which sponsors a spelling bee, quiz bowl, leadership day, and 8th grade honors night
- Annual events such as Veteran's Day visit, 8th grade trip to Washington, DC, 8th grade field trip to Meadowbrook, 8th grade portfolio project, talent show and multiple service learning projects

PROGRAM ESSENTIALS



Teacher Collaboration

The teachers of Pirate Academy have common prep times, weekly team meetings and collaboration days to ensure that expectations are consistent. This level of teamwork and communication is at the heart of Pirate Academy and helping students succeed.



Building Blocks To Success

During their freshman year PCHS students create a pathway to success by starting out with a good foundation. This foundation includes technological literacy, a solid curriculum, project-based learning, 21st century skills, executive functioning skills and character education. Once these building blocks are in place students will be able to better choose their pathway, be it New Tech High, career technical education, performing arts, visual arts or general academics.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PIRATE

Problem-Solver

Integrity

Responsible

Achiever

Technologically Literate

Empathetic



Pirate Academy (Freshman Year)

Pirate Academy is a blend of two different nationally recognized programs – Freshman Academy and New Tech High. This program is a foundation for students entering the high school, helping them to build positive relationships, grow critical skills, and develop into well-rounded students. We provide the best of both programs so our students have the opportunity to become full-fledged P.I.R.A.T.E.s - students who are Problem-solvers, who have Integrity, who are Responsible, who are Achievers, who are Technologically Literate and Empathetic.

A Strong Culture

As students transition to high school it is critical to build a strong foundation in their first year that will support them through graduation. The key to developing this support is building relationships between teachers and students.

Our teachers accomplish this by creating classrooms that are safe, comfortable, and challenge students to do their best. Teachers also build bonds with students by simply being present. Every morning PCHS teachers and staff are in the halls greeting students, learning their names, asking how they are doing and getting to know them. This helps build trust and a great learning environment.

Building The Culture

Character Education

- Teaching the assets students need to be successful
- Open forum for discussing real situations that the students go through

Service Learning

- Being a part of something bigger than yourself
- Knowing your actions make a difference – “Be the Change!”

Link Crew

- Support from upperclassmen (academic and social)
- Great place to ask the questions that freshmen are sometimes afraid to ask

Curriculum

Freshmen will have four hours within Pirate Academy. The remaining hours are filled by electives such as language, band or orchestra, physical education or one of many other courses PCHS offers. Honors classes are also available to Pirate Academy students.

This team model and structure promote integration among subjects, teachers and programs.

Pirate Academy Courses

- Language Skills 9A and 9B
- U.S. History and Geography I and II
- Sci-Tech (Earth Science /IT Systems / Digital Multi-Media)

College & Career Readiness

21st Century Skills

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Communication and Collaboration
- ICT (Information, Communication, and Technology) Literacy
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Initiative and Self-Direction

Agency and Executive Functioning Skills

- Time Management
- Organizational Skills
- Self-Advocacy
- Reflection

NATIONAL RECOGNITION



Robotics Program

Our program offers students a real world, hands-on engineering experience. The lab utilizes state-of-the-art industrial automation equipment to provide advanced mechatronics training. Students earn articulated college credit and nationally recognized certifications, and exit the program prepared for post-secondary success.



Automotive Technology Program

Our autos class provides college and career preparation in the automotive field. Students learn every part of the automobile through this comprehensive program.

FAST FACTS

\$5.9 million

In 2014, our graduates were offered over \$5.9 million in scholarships.

1:1 laptops

Only high school in Livingston County with one-to-one laptop program. This program was established in 2010.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

PCHS offers students the opportunity to earn college credits through dual enrollment at local universities and community college.



Pinckney Community High School

(10 - 12)

PCHS has earned state and national recognition for many programs:

- Robotics
- Automotive Technology
- Cisco Academy
- Computer-Aided Manufacturing Technology
- Freshman Academy
- New Tech High School
- Performing Arts and more

Honors & Advanced Placement

PCHS offers students over 15 Advanced Placement and Honors courses that cover many subjects:

- Computer Science
- English Arts 9th & 10th grade
- English Literature & Composition
- English Language & Composition
- Calculus
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Biology
- Environmental Science
- Economics
- Psychology
- U.S. History
- U.S. Government & Politics
- Spanish V

Involved Students

- **National Honor Society**
Membership is based not only upon a G.P.A. of 3.4 or higher but also a student's demonstrated leadership, character and service to the community.
- **Link Crew**
Made up of juniors and seniors who help freshmen make the transition to high school.

- **Positive Peer Influence**

Made up of students who are known as leaders in their peer groups and are chosen after going through an extensive interview process. These students are peer mediators, trained to assist other students in working through conflicts.

- **Student Government**

This group advocates for the PCHS student body and acts as a liaison between students and administration, faculty, and the community. It also facilitates communication between student organizations and the student body. Student Government offers opportunities for leadership development, involvement and personal growth.

- **Camp Skyline**

An intensive weekend for students to learn communication skills and gain experience in reaching out to others. Students are taught creative and healthy ways to have fun and feel good, and to support others. The goal is for students to learn about leadership in their own environment so they can return to PCHS and make a positive impact. After attending, many students have stated, "This was the best weekend of my life!"

NATIONAL RECOGNITION



National Filming Site

PNTH was selected as a national filming site for instructional videos. According to New Tech Network, PNTH exemplifies a school with excellent instructional practices in Project-Based Learning.



Students' Experiences

"I've learned that if I really want something done and I put my mind and myself into it, I can get it done. This life lesson is going to help me not only in college but for the rest of my life" – 2014 graduate

"New Tech has prepared me for what I am doing in college. I want to go into the business field, where I can present and talk in front of groups." – 2014 graduate

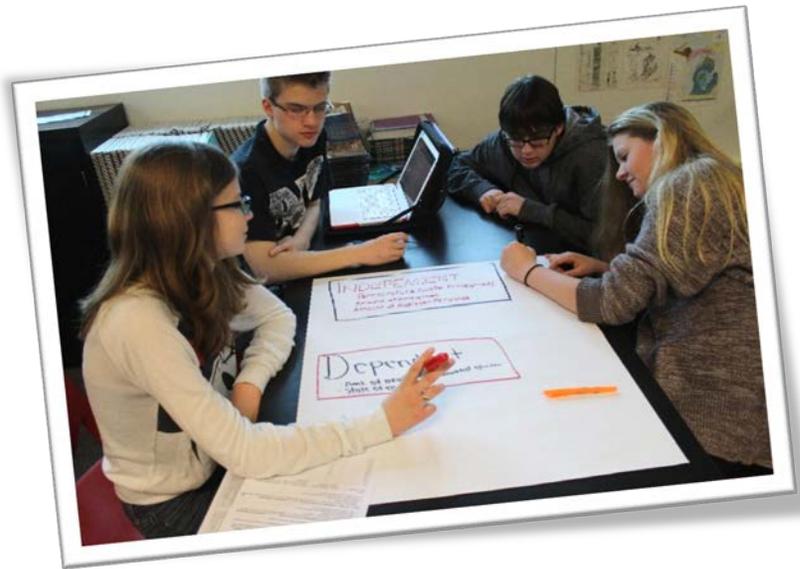
FAST FACTS

82%

82% of New Tech teachers have advanced degrees (Masters, EdS, EdD, PhD).

Internships

Since 2012, 40 New Tech students have completed a 40-hour internship with Lowry Solutions (formerly Lowry Computer Products) of Brighton, MI. In addition to internships, several students have been selected for paid positions at Lowry.



New Tech High School

(10 - 12)

Pinckney New Tech High School prepares students for college and careers by integrating skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, effective oral and written communication, organization, work ethic, collaboration, and technological fluency into all their projects.

PNTH students benefit from Project-Based Learning (PBL), where they regularly work in groups to analyze, research and solve complex, real world problems. Students will give, on average, 15-20 presentations each year. These problem-solving and public speaking experiences prepare them for college and future careers.

Students are encouraged to enroll in college classes, and many graduate with several college credits. College credits can be earned through dual-enrollment, or by taking AP and articulated college credit courses.

Our PNTH students are required to complete a 40-hour internship project before graduating. This insures real world experience and a chance to explore and evaluate potential career fields.

"Today's high school students are the future of our society. Our partnership with [Pinckney] New Tech is far more than we had imagined when it started. The students are bright and energetic, allowing for our organization to learn just as much from them as they learn from us. We look forward to a longstanding partnership with this outstanding education program."
- Mike Lowry CEO of Lowry Solutions

Each school year, PNTH students are required to write several College Readiness Assessments (CRA). These assessments help students to develop thinking and writing skills in preparation for college and the career of their choice. Trained teachers develop CRAs in the context of a relevant project. Evaluations are based on a national rubric created by New Tech Network in conjunction with Stanford University.

Proven Effective

- New Tech students graduate at a rate of 6% greater than the national average
- New Tech students enroll in college at a rate 9% higher than the national average
- New Tech graduates persist in 4-year colleges at a rate of 17%, and in 2-year colleges at a rate of 46%, greater than the national average
- New Tech students experience 75% more growth in higher-order thinking skills between freshman and senior years than comparison groups

New Tech Staff

- Designated literacy coach
- Designated Special Education teacher
- Three New Tech Network-Certified Project-Based Learning (PBL) trainers
- Four New Tech Network-Certified Project-Based Learning (PBL) teachers
- Reading Apprenticeship strategies used by all staff

Go Pirates!

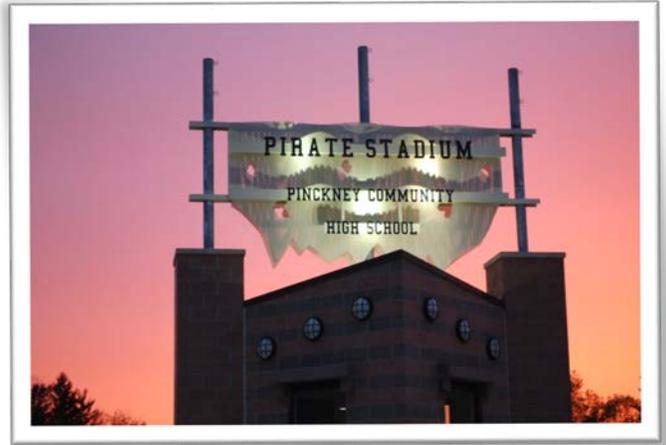
Pinckney High School Athletics are a proud member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) and the Kensington Lakes Activities Association (KLAA) Conference. The KLAA hosts 24 schools from Livingston, Oakland and Wayne counties; two 12-team conferences (The Lakes & Kensington), and four divisions (South, Central, North and West). PCHS is part of the West division along with Brighton, Grand Blanc, Howell, Hartland and Milford High Schools.

Our Athletic Department facilitates over 875 contests, competing with 65 teams, led by more than 110 coaches and volunteers. Since opening the new high school in 1999, Pinckney has added over 100 All-State Athletes to the *Athletic Hall of Fame*, inclusive of 10 individual and three team State championships.

The academic and value structure of athletics creates a strong leadership environment for our student athletes.

Pirate Athletics

- Baseball
 - Basketball
 - Bowling
 - Cheerleading
 - Competitive Cheer
 - Cross Country
 - Equestrian
 - Football
 - Golf
 - Ice Hockey
 - Pom Pons
 - Skiing
 - Snowboarder Cross
 - Soccer
 - Softball
 - Swim/Dive
 - Tennis
- Track/Field
 - Volleyball
 - Wrestling



Focus on the Arts

Music . Drama . Art

Pinckney Community Schools places a strong emphasis on the performing and visual arts. Art classes are offered kindergarten through high school.

Band and orchestra begin in 5th grade and carry on into high school with marching band, concert band, concert orchestra and chamber orchestra. In addition to band and orchestra, the high school also offers choir and varsity choir.

Students at Navigator and Pathfinder interested in performing arts can participate in the student-run Back Alley Players, an International Thespian Society Junior Theatre Troupe, Tasch Techies, where students learn to operate the light and sound booth, and Garage Band.

Once at the high school, theater students can join Act2, our internationally recognized student-led Thespian Society.

- The only orchestra program offered in Livingston County public schools
- Consistent Division 1 ratings at the District & State Levels of MSBOA
- Chamber Orchestra Best Overall Music Ensemble at Dixie Classics Festival 2011
- Side-by-Side concert with Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra
- Marching Band Camp (required) at Grass Lake where students learn new music and drills for the following season
- Symphony Band and Wind Ensemble that consistently earn admirable ratings at the MSBOA





Recreation

Pinckney is surrounded by many beautiful, wooded trails that are enjoyed year-round for activities from bike riding to cross-country skiing.



Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

Entertainment

Since 1991, the community theater group, Pinckney Players, has been entertaining audiences with plays and musicals performed in Jane Tasch Theater.



Community

Our community hosts many events that bring families together to enjoy the downtown area in a festive atmosphere. Residents enjoy parades, an art festival, holiday celebrations and much more.

Our Community

Pinckney / Hamburg and their surrounding areas offer much more than a great education. Countless recreational activities, cultural offerings and local events are all part of what makes ours a great community.

Beautiful lakes, state parks and wooded trails help residents experience that "up north" feeling without leaving home!

Recreation

If you and your family love the outdoors and being active, the greater Pinckney area is perfect for you. Boating, swimming and fishing on our many lakes, biking, hiking and horseback riding on over 40 miles of recreational trails, and golfing our premier courses are just some of the ways your family can enjoy the natural beauty that surrounds us.

Enrichment activities are offered through Pinckney Community Education for both children and adults. Courses include everything from arts to sports and wellness.

Arts & Entertainment

Pinckney is home to many theater groups including Pinckney Players, Act2 and a local dinner theater. In addition to great theater in our community, there are many local venues to enjoy live music.

Restaurants

The Livingston County area is host to a variety of restaurants. Whether you are looking to enjoy homemade Italian cuisine, grab a burger or some Chinese, enjoy traditional diner fare, or cool off with ice cream in downtown Hell, you won't have to travel far.

Libraries

Our community is proud to offer residents two public libraries. The Hamburg Township Library and the Pinckney Community Library offer programs for children and adults including book clubs, movie viewings and more.

Computers are available for children and adult use at both libraries. There are also meeting rooms available by reservation.

Events

With its open space, playground and seasonal ice rink, the Township Square in downtown Pinckney is a wonderful place for neighbors to gather, for children to play and for residents to enjoy community events.

Events held throughout the year include:

- Art in the Park
- Pinckney Spooktacular
- Light Up The Square Holiday Celebration
- Movies in the Park
- Hootin' in the Park
- St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Memorial Day Parade
- Farmer's Market

Hamburg Township is host to an annual Family Fun Fest offering a week of amusement rides, entertainment, fireworks and 4-H events.

Location

Our location is perfect for families who are looking to live in a quiet, friendly community and still be close to major cities and airports. Living in Pinckney allows you to be near major expressways without having them in your backyard. Our location makes us an easy commute to Lansing, Ann Arbor and the metro Detroit area.

Community

Of the many wonderful features our schools and community have to offer, a sense of belonging is perhaps the best one. Life in a close-knit community provides ample opportunity to get involved, to know your neighbors and raise your children in an environment that values family and supports youth.



Positively Pinckney!

Live • Learn • Play

This brochure and other marketing materials for Pinckney Community Schools have been provided by Positively Pinckney and its partners. Positively Pinckney is a team of volunteer parents, teachers and administrators who are committed to sharing the good news about our schools and our community.

Thank you to our volunteers for their time and effort and to our partners for their generous donations!

We would also like to thank the following photographers who generously donated their images:

- Diane Harris – <https://www.facebook.com/dharris.photos>
- Sarah Jane Photography – www.PinckneyPortraits.com
- Tricia Orr Photography – www.triciaorrphotography.com



Our Partners

Platinum

Brunner Family Dental
Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
Michael J. Brunner, DDS
Elizabeth Prast, DDS

Howard Hanna –
Rob Guilloz, ABR, CNE, SRES, Realtor



Treasure Chest

Country Elementary P.T.O.
Farley Hill Elementary P.T.O.



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DR. RENEE LALIBERTE

www.mainstreetoptometry.com

Pirate



Our Schools

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Navigator Upper Elementary (4 – 6)

(810) 225-5300

Pathfinder (7 - 8)

(810) 225-5200

Pinckney High School and New Tech (9 – 12)

(810) 225-5500

